United Nations ST/IC/1998/76

Secretariat

17 November 1998

Information circular*

To: Members of delegations and staff

From: The Assistant Secretary-General for Central Support Services

Subject: **First day of issue: "Schönbrunn Palace" stamps and prestige booklets and the 1998 annual collection folders**

Commemorative stamps

1. On Friday, 4 December 1998, the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) will issue a set of six commemorative stamps on the theme "Schönbrunn Palace". This is the fourth United Nations stamp issue to illustrate World Heritage sites and the second to feature prestige booklets describing the site. The stamps, in denominations of US$ 0.33, $0.60, Sw F 0,70, Sw F 1,10, S 3.50 and S 7, were designed by Robert Stein (United Nations), based on photographs provided by Schloß Schönbrunn Kultur-und Betriebsges, m.b.H.

(United States equivalents — Sw F 0,70: $0.47; Sw F 1,10: $0.74; S 3.50: $0.28; and S 7: $0.56 — subject to exchange rate fluctuation)

* Expiration date of the present information circular: 31 December 1998.

98-35901 (E) 241198

Prestige booklets

2. The three prestige booklets have a common design and each contains a total of 21 mint stamps based on the designs of the six commemorative stamps on the theme "Schönbrunn Palace" in one of three currencies: United States dollars, Swiss francs or Austrian schillings. The booklets are priced at $2.79, $2.64 and $2.66, respectively, subject to fluctuating exchange rates.

1998 annual collection folders

3. The New York, Geneva and Vienna annual collection folders of single mint stamps and souvenir sheets issued in 1998 will be released also on 4 December 1998. It should be noted that the 1998 endangered species series and the 1998 flag series stamps will not be included in the individual New York, Geneva or Vienna annual collection folders. They are contained in their own separate albums.

1998 flag series folder

4. The 1998 flag series folder will be released on 4 December 1998. One of each of the eight flag stamps issued in 1998 will be included with each album, together with the appropriate mounts.

General information

5. For the convenience of collectors, UNPA at Headquarters will provide prepared and cancelled New York, Geneva and Vienna first-day covers on the UNPA official first-day cachets only.

6. Members of delegations and the staff can obtain the new stamps, prestige booklets and first-day items on Friday, 4 December, at the following locations:

(a) The UNPA sales counter in the concourse of the General Assembly Building from 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.;

(b) The counter at the north end of the Secretariat lobby from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

7. First-day-of-issue cancellations can be obtained at the following temporary United States Postal Service substations:

(a) The counter outside the United Nations Bookstore in the concourse of the General Assembly Building from 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.;

(b) The counter along the west wall of the north end of the Secretariat Lobby from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

8. Information on United Nations stamps can be accessed on the Internet at http://www.un.org/Depts/UNPA.